Forests.—As compared with the revised estimate of Rs. 3,22,800, the budget estimate is fixed at Rs. 3,75,800, thus exceeding the former by Rs. 53,000. This increase is mainly contributed by the more extensive operations anticipated next year and the provision made for sending two students for training in Forestry to Dehra Dun in the coming year.

Last year, when speaking about the question of the continuance of the Tramway I had occasion to observe that the Government were considering the question of conducting a careful reconnoitring survey of the areas tapped by the Tramway to fully explore the possibility of the existence of any more valuable species of timber. The survey was accordingly conducted in the course of the year and the interim report of the Special Officer appointed for the purpose is now in the hands of the Government. In the course of his long report the Special Officer points out: "Trees estimated to yield 50,000 candies of exploitable timber of which 28,000 are teak and rose-wood and the rest superior jungle-wood have already been numbered and listed and with this quantity there is not likely to be much difficulty in maintaining the Tramway at a decided profit for the next four or five years provided there is no big fall in the price of timber. In the course of that period the reconnoitring and estimation of the possibility of the whole area tappable by the existing Tramway or its possible extension may be undertaken and preliminary working plan prepared which would automatically solve the problem of the Tramway, at least as far as the Forest Department is concerned. The period of certainty regarding profitable working of the Tramway in the immediate future, which may now be taken as four or five years on the basis of the results of listing so far done, may still further be prolonged by arranging for the continuance of listing work as a normal part of the routine of the O. W. C. staff. Generally speaking, the net result of the present work may be considered to be that, while it helps to provide for the requirements of the immediate future, it affords time for further investigation of all the aspects of the question before arriving at a final decision on the basis of well-ascertained data". I have quoted the conclusion *in extenso* so that the House may be in possession of the full facts of the case. The report has been received only very lately and the Government have not passed any orders; but, based on the conclusions of the reconnoitring officer, provision has been made for the continuance of the Tramway and for the purchase of the essential locomotives, etc., for its maintenance.

General Administration.—The only remark that has to be offered is that provision has been made for the continuance

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of the special clerk and typist lent to the Merry Lodge Palace for compiling old records under 'Huzur—Temporary Establishment'.

Accounts and Finance.—The provision that may require a word of explanation is that for the appointment of a Special Officer for compiling Departmental Account Codes. We have now no codes or rules relating to the various accounts and registers to be maintained in many of the offices subject to local audit for the guidance of the officers themselves, e. g., the Hospitals, the Stables, Palace Funds, the College, the Hostels, the Trade Schools, etc., etc. The maintenance of accounts in these offices is now based on departmental orders altered by instructions in the local audit reports and orders thereon. It need hardly be said that such a state of affairs is not quite satisfactory and that it is very desirable to have these rules codified. It is mainly for this that provision has been made for the deputation of an officer for a period of six months. The temporary establishment sanctioned last year is also proposed to be continued during the coming year.

Jails.—With due regard to the representations made in this House, it might be remembered that a Jail Committee composed of officials and non-officials was appointed by the Government, and the House must have been aware by this time of their valuable recommendations published in the Gazette lately. Most of their suggestions have been accepted by the Government and to give effect to them a lump provision of Rs. 3,000 has been made in the budget estimate for 1105. It is not possible at present to furnish the details of the amount required since they have not as yet been worked up to.

Police.—During successive sessions of the Council representations and motions have been made for the appointment of a special staff for the control of bus traffic and issue of brake certificates. Government have been considering the question and a lump provision of Rs. 4,000 is made for appointing the necessary staff consisting of a Traffic Inspector on a decent pay assisted by a Sub-Inspector, a clerk, etc. The details have not been worked out as yet. We recognise that with nearly 300 buses plying in the State it is high time to organise the staff for which this provision is proposed to be utilised. In this connection, I may also point out that necessary funds for this purpose will be forthcoming from the brake certificate fees alone which was till lately being wholly appropriated by the Commissioner of Police. It has now been ordered to be credited to the State.

Another fresh item for which provision has been made is for the appointment of two probationary Sub-Inspectors. Since the

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